

comment period, which will include public hearings, the public may comment on the draft EIS. Following a review of the comments, the Council will then choose final preferred management measures for submission with the final EIS to the Secretary of Commerce for publishing of a proposed and then final rule, both of which have additional comment periods.

Scoping Hearing Schedule

Scoping hearings will be held on the following dates:

June 14, 2010, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.: Hilton Garden Inn, Providence Airport/Warwick, One Thuber Street, Warwick, RI 02886, 401-734-9600;

June 15, 2010, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.: Holiday Inn Express East End, 1707 Old country Rd., Route 58, Riverhead, NY 11901, 631-548-1000;

June 17, 2010, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.: Congress Hall, 251 Beach Ave, Cape May, NJ 08204, 609-884-6592; and

June 23, 2010, 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.: Virginia Marine Resources Commission, 2600 Washington Avenue, 3rd Floor, Newport News, VA 23607.

Special Accommodations

The scoping hearings are accessible to people with physical disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Dan Furlong (see **ADDRESSES** above) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Authority: 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: June 4, 2010.

Carrie Selberg,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XW83

Fisheries of the South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico; Southeast Data, Assessment, and Review (SEDAR); assessment webinars II through IV for SEDAR 22 yellowedge grouper and tilefish.

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of SEDAR 22 Gulf of Mexico yellowedge grouper and tilefish assessment webinars II through IV.

SUMMARY: The SEDAR 22 assessments of the Gulf of Mexico stocks of yellowedge grouper and tilefish will consist of a series of workshops and webinars: a Data Workshop, a series of Assessment webinars, and a Review Workshop. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION.**

DATES: The second, third, and fourth SEDAR 22 Assessment Process webinars will be held on Thursday, July 1, 2010 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (EDT), Wednesday, July 21, 2010 from 1 p.m. to 5:00 pm (EDT), and Thursday, August 12, 2010 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (EDT).

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held via webinar. The webinar is open to members of the public. Those interested in participating should contact Julie Neer at SEDAR (See **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) to request an invitation providing webinar access information.

A listening station will be available at the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council office located at 2203 N Lois Avenue, Suite 1100, Tampa, FL 33607. Those interested in participating via the listening station should contact Julie Neer at SEDAR (See **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) at least 1 day prior to the webinar.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Julie A Neer, SEDAR Coordinator, 4055 Faber Place, Suite 201, North Charleston, SC 29405; telephone: (843) 571-4366; e-mail: Julie.neer@safmc.net.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils, in conjunction with NOAA Fisheries and the Atlantic and Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commissions have implemented the Southeast Data, Assessment and Review (SEDAR) process, a multi-step method for determining the status of fish stocks in the Southeast Region. SEDAR is a three-step process including: (1) Data Workshop, (2) Assessment Process utilizing webinars and (3) Review Workshop. The product of the Data Workshop is a data report which compiles and evaluates potential datasets and recommends which datasets are appropriate for assessment analyses. The product of the Assessment Process is a stock assessment report which describes the fisheries, evaluates the status of the stock, estimates biological benchmarks, projects future population conditions, and recommends research and monitoring needs. The assessment is independently peer reviewed at the Review Workshop. The product of the Review Workshop is a Summary documenting Panel opinions regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the stock assessment and input data.

Participants for SEDAR Workshops are appointed by the Gulf of Mexico, South Atlantic, and Caribbean Fishery Management Councils and NOAA Fisheries Southeast Regional Office and Southeast Fisheries Science Center. Participants include data collectors and database managers; stock assessment scientists, biologists, and researchers; constituency representatives including fishermen, environmentalists, and NGO's; International experts; and staff of Councils, Commissions, and state and federal agencies.

SEDAR 22 Assessment webinars II through IV:

Using datasets recommended from the Data Workshop, participants will employ assessment models to evaluate stock status, estimate population benchmarks and management criteria, and project future conditions. Participants will recommend the most appropriate methods and configurations for determining stock status and estimating population parameters.

Meeting Schedule:

Webinar II: July 1, 2010, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (EDT)

Webinar III: July 21, 2010, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (EDT)

Webinar IV: August 12, 2010, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. (EDT)

Although non-emergency issues not contained in this agenda may come before this group for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal action during these meetings. Action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this notice and any issues arising after publication of this notice that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the Council's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to the Council office (see **ADDRESSES**) at least 10 business days prior to the meeting.

Dated: June 4, 2010.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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